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County Employment and Wages in South Dakota — Second Quarter 2018

South Dakota's only large county, Minnehaha, reported employment growth of 1.0 percent from June 2017 to June 2018, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are defined as those with employment of 75,000 or greater as measured by 2017 annual average employment.) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that in June 2018, Minnehaha County's employment level of 128,800 accounted for 29.3 percent of total employment within the state. (See [table 1.](#))

Nationally, employment rose 1.5 percent from June 2017 to June 2018, as 309 of the 349 largest U.S. counties gained jobs. Nationwide, the 349 largest counties made up 72.9 percent of total U.S. employment, which stood at 147.4 million in June 2018.

The average weekly wage in Minnehaha County was \$896 in the second quarter of 2018, up 2.3 percent from the previous year. Nationally, the average weekly wage rose 3.4 percent over the year to \$1,055 in the second quarter of 2018.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 65 counties in South Dakota with employment below 75,000. All 65 of these smaller counties had average weekly wages below the national average in June 2018. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

Minnehaha County's 2.3-percent wage growth from the second quarter of 2017 to the second quarter of 2018 ranked 244th nationally. (See [table 1.](#)) Among the 349 largest U.S. counties, 340 had over-the-year increases in average weekly wages in the second quarter of 2018. Marin, CA, had the largest over-the-year wage gain at 11.7 percent.

Eight of the 349 largest U.S. counties experienced over-the-year decreases in average weekly wages. New Hanover, NC, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in average weekly wages with a loss of 6.4 percent.

Large county average weekly wages

Minnehaha County's \$896 average weekly wage ranked 239th among the 349 large U.S. counties in the second quarter of 2018. Nationwide, weekly wages were higher than the U.S. average of \$1,055 in 94 of the largest U.S. counties. Santa Clara, CA, held the top position with an average weekly wage of \$2,573. San Mateo, CA, was second at \$2,357, followed by San Francisco, CA (\$2,083), and New York, NY (\$2,025).

Nationwide, 255 large U.S. counties reported average weekly wages below the national average. Horry, SC (\$625) reported the lowest weekly wage, followed by the Texas counties of Cameron (\$642), Hidalgo (\$645), and Webb (\$687).

Average weekly wages in South Dakota's smaller counties

All 65 counties in South Dakota with employment below 75,000 had average weekly wages lower than the national average of \$1,055. Among these smaller counties, Union County had the highest average weekly wage at \$953, and Mellette County had the lowest at \$501. (See [table 2.](#))

When all 66 counties in South Dakota were considered, 7 reported average weekly wages of \$599 or lower, 15 had wages from \$600 to \$649, 15 reported wages from \$650 to \$699, 11 reported wages from \$700 to \$749, and 18 had wages of \$750 or higher. (See [chart 1.](#))

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2017 edition of this publication contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2018 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2017* are now available online at www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn17.htm. The 2018 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2019.

The County Employment and Wages release for third quarter 2018 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. The County Employment and Wages full data update for third quarter 2018 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

New BLS Local Data iPhone App Includes QCEW Data

BLS has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of the Chief Information Officer to develop a new mobile app for iPhones. The BLS Local Data app is ideal for customers, such as jobseekers and economic and workforce development professionals, who want to know more about local labor markets. For more information, please go to:

<https://blogs.bls.gov/blog/2018/10/18/new-bls-local-data-app-now-available/>.

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The

result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cew; however, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the largest county in South Dakota, second quarter 2018

Area	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2018 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2017-18 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, second quarter 2017-18 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	147,431.2	1.5	--	\$1,055	--	3.4	--
South Dakota.....	439.7	0.9	--	807	49	2.8	35
Minnehaha, SD.....	128.8	1.0	193	896	239	2.3	244

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in South Dakota, second quarter 2018

Area	Employment June 2018	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	147,431,154	\$1,055
South Dakota	439,713	807
Aurora	979	642
Beadle	9,047	745
Bennett	830	640
Bon Homme	1,867	641
Brookings	18,884	817
Brown	21,182	799
Brule	2,068	605
Buffalo	523	763
Butte	2,915	623
Campbell	458	612
Charles Mix	3,659	627
Clark	1,096	600
Clay	6,083	733
Codington	16,278	748
Corson	799	754
Custer	3,150	587
Davison	12,227	757
Day	1,996	625
Deuel	1,409	759
Dewey	2,186	736
Douglas	1,103	633
Edmunds	1,203	705
Fall River	2,677	705
Faulk	652	647
Grant	3,924	764
Gregory	1,544	586
Haakon	807	767
Hamlin	2,133	748
Hand	1,438	625
Hanson	656	686
Harding	494	711
Hughes	11,018	825
Hutchinson	2,672	687
Hyde	576	761
Jackson	825	567
Jerauld	1,488	649
Jones	491	561
Kingsbury	1,818	699
Lake	5,068	790
Lawrence	12,348	682
Lincoln	23,490	921
Lyman	1,435	584
Marshall	1,718	738
McCook	1,387	668
McPherson	613	584
Meade	7,298	777
Mellette	325	501
Miner	794	621
Minnehaha	128,757	896
Moody	2,718	718
Oglala Lakota	3,639	779
Pennington	60,340	774
Perkins	1,171	604
Potter	911	666

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in South Dakota, second quarter 2018 - Continued

Area	Employment June 2018	Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾
Roberts.....	3,756	676
Sanborn.....	572	653
Spink.....	2,430	691
Stanley.....	1,342	659
Sully.....	651	700
Todd.....	2,979	695
Tripp.....	2,360	657
Turner.....	2,211	658
Union.....	9,987	953
Walworth.....	2,319	650
Yankton.....	13,281	808
Ziebach.....	315	659

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2018

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2018 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2017-18	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2017-18	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	147,431.2	1.5	\$1,055	--	3.4	--
Alabama	1,969.9	1.2	882	37	2.8	35
Alaska	335.8	-0.9	1,043	15	3.7	9
Arizona	2,770.8	2.6	973	23	3.3	19
Arkansas	1,214.6	0.7	824	47	1.7	47
California	17,473.1	1.9	1,265	4	4.6	3
Colorado	2,704.4	2.4	1,075	10	3.2	27
Connecticut	1,704.5	0.3	1,218	5	0.1	50
Delaware	454.3	1.3	1,023	17	1.4	49
District of Columbia	777.3	1.3	1,713	1	2.6	39
Florida	8,568.9	2.1	931	28	2.9	32
Georgia	4,440.5	2.0	979	22	2.3	43
Hawaii	658.3	0.5	956	24	2.5	41
Idaho	745.3	3.1	794	50	3.8	8
Illinois	6,061.1	0.8	1,097	9	3.4	14
Indiana	3,075.8	1.1	883	36	2.8	35
Iowa	1,583.7	0.8	880	39	3.3	19
Kansas	1,393.3	1.0	879	40	3.4	14
Kentucky	1,905.9	0.9	882	37	2.3	43
Louisiana	1,918.6	0.4	901	33	3.7	9
Maine	636.8	1.0	843	45	3.6	11
Maryland	2,712.0	0.7	1,141	8	3.4	14
Massachusetts	3,650.1	1.0	1,322	2	3.5	12
Michigan	4,424.7	1.3	997	20	2.9	32
Minnesota	2,925.6	0.8	1,072	12	3.3	19
Mississippi	1,130.7	0.2	752	51	2.7	38
Missouri	2,829.0	0.5	924	30	3.9	7
Montana	478.7	1.1	817	48	2.5	41
Nebraska	990.8	0.6	859	43	3.1	29
Nevada	1,372.4	3.1	931	28	3.3	19
New Hampshire	670.8	0.8	1,049	14	3.3	19
New Jersey	4,157.0	0.9	1,201	7	2.3	43
New Mexico	823.6	1.0	852	44	3.5	12
New York	9,579.2	1.7	1,297	3	4.5	4
North Carolina	4,450.2	2.2	933	25	3.3	19
North Dakota	426.1	0.8	986	21	3.4	14
Ohio	5,461.3	0.7	933	25	2.3	43
Oklahoma	1,606.4	1.2	875	41	3.2	27
Oregon	1,947.3	1.5	999	18	3.3	19
Pennsylvania	5,924.9	1.1	1,031	16	3.1	29
Rhode Island	491.0	0.7	998	19	1.7	47
South Carolina	2,126.5	3.4	833	46	0.0	51
South Dakota	439.7	0.9	807	49	2.8	35
Tennessee	2,994.1	1.6	932	27	2.9	32
Texas	12,326.3	2.2	1,062	13	3.4	14
Utah	1,483.9	3.4	899	35	4.3	5
Vermont	312.4	-0.8	907	31	4.3	5
Virginia	3,941.0	1.3	1,073	11	2.6	39
Washington	3,444.1	2.7	1,218	5	6.9	1
West Virginia	702.9	1.6	868	42	4.8	2
Wisconsin	2,933.5	0.9	904	32	3.3	19
Wyoming	282.2	0.5	901	33	3.0	31
Puerto Rico	853.5	-2.3	543	(3)	5.2	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2018 - Continued

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2018 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2017-18	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2017-18	National ranking by percent change
Virgin Islands	33.4	-14.4	838	(3)	12.8	(3)

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county in South Dakota, second quarter 2018

